

Provisional Vital Statistics for August 2003

Live births decreased in August as 5,926 Missouri babies were born compared with 8,559 one year earlier. Cumulative births also show large decreases, but these may be related to irregular reporting. For January-August, births decreased by 4.4 percent from 53,007 to 49,694.

Deaths decreased in August as 3,960 Missourians died compared with 5,506 in August 2002. Cumulative deaths for the 8- and 12- month periods ending with August also show decreases. For the first two-thirds of the year, deaths decreased by 7.7 percent from 40,146 to 37,060.

The **Natural increase** in August was 1,966

(5,926 births minus 3,960 deaths). For the 8- and 12- month periods ending with August, the natural increase rose substantially.

Marriages decreased slightly for all three time periods shown below. **Dissolutions of marriage** increased in August but decreased for the 8- and 12- month periods ending with August. For the 12 months ending with August, the marriage to divorce ratio remained unchanged, 1.85.

Infant deaths decreased for all three time periods shown below. For January-August, the infant death rate decreased from 8.8 to 8.5 per 1,000 live births.

PROVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR AUGUST 2003

Item	<u>August</u>				<u>Jan-Aug cumulative</u>				<u>12 months ending with August</u>				
	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		
	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Live Births	8,559	5,926	19.0	12.2	52,007	49,694	13.9	13.1	76,821	74,358	13.4	13.6	13.1
Deaths	5,506	3,960	12.2	8.2	40,146	37,060	10.7	9.8	57,139	53,787	9.6	10.1	9.4
Natural increase	3,053	1,966	6.8	4.1	11,861	12,634	3.2	3.3	19,682	20,571	3.8	3.5	3.6
Marriages	4,213	3,814	9.3	7.9	27,954	27,902	7.5	7.3	41,896	41,500	7.5	7.4	7.3
Dissolutions	1,825	1,971	4.0	4.1	15,044	14,942	4.0	3.9	22,696	22,491	4.3	4.0	3.9
Infant deaths	64	44	7.5	7.4	456	420	8.8	8.5	640	625	7.6	8.3	8.4
Population base (in thousands)	...	...	5,674	5,709	...	...	5,674	5,709	...	...	5,623	5,662	5,697

* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Rates are adjusted to account for varying lengths of monthly reporting periods.

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